



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Planning Division

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September 9, 2013

Dear Property Owners:

On January 31, 2013, the City of Yakima notified all affected property owners, federal, state, and local agencies of the state mandated update of its Shoreline Master Program (SMP) regulations, and encouraged the public to participate in its development by attending the upcoming meetings.

Approximately May 15, 2013, after reviewing the most current scientific flow data for Cowiche Creek the City of Yakima determined that the creek was not subject to shoreline jurisdiction and regulation due to insufficient flow. However, during the Environmental Review process for the City of Yakima's draft SMP the Yakama Nation submitted additional scientific flow data bringing the creek's shoreline jurisdiction back into question. To resolve this issue the City of Yakima has requested that the Washington State Department of Ecology review the issue and data, and provide the City with a written decision.

To ensure that the City is able to stay on schedule in development and adoption of its Draft SMP, the City's Planning Division has developed a Cowiche Creek Addendum and Cumulative Impact Analysis to address the inclusion of the creek in shoreline jurisdiction. These two documents will only be adopted should the Washington State Department of Ecology include Cowiche Creek in shoreline jurisdiction. The above mentioned documents and the City's Draft SMP and Cumulative Impact Analysis may be found on the City's Shorelines Master Program web page at <http://www.yakimawa.gov/services/planning/city-of-yakima-shorelines-master-program-update/>

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing before the City of Yakima Planning Commission has been scheduled on these amendments for Wednesday, **September 25, 2013**, beginning at 3:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 129 N 2nd Street, Yakima, WA.

REQUEST FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS

Your views on this proposal are welcome. Agencies, tribes, and the public are encouraged to review and comment on the proposed amendments. Written comments on the amendments will be accepted through the hearing date. Your comments on this project may be mailed to:

Jeff Peters, Associate Planner
City of Yakima Planning Department
129 N. 2nd Street, Yakima, WA 98901

Or email to Jeff.Peters@yakimawa.gov

For additional information regarding the City of Yakima Shoreline Master Program update process contact Jeff Peters, Associate Planner at (509) 575-6163.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeff Peters". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "P".

Jeff Peters
Associate Planner
City of Yakima, WA